

## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

## **Arizona Division of Emergency Management**

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Janice K. Brewer

MG Hugo E. Salazar THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

May 1, 2013

Michael O'Driscoll Director, Gila County Emergency Services 5515 S. Apache Avenue, Ste 400 Globe, AZ 85501

Dear Mr. O'Driscoll:

By resolution, the Gila County Board of Supervisors resolved to adopt the National Incident Management System and Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) as the fundamental concepts on how the County would operate in its response to emergencies. This would entail the involvement and buy-in of County emergency management, health, first responders, and others who participate in the County's response to emergencies.

Also by resolution, the Gila County Board of Supervisors resolved to participate in the statewide Arizona Mutual Aid Compact that currently has been adopted by 109 jurisdictions statewide.

These resolutions are praiseworthy as they show that Gila County desires to help those in need and will be prepared to accept aid from others should it be needed. In either case, Gila County agencies will be expected to be operating within the precepts of NIMS/ICS to facilitate their integration with other responding entities.

Thus, being trained and operating under NIMS/ICS must be a part of the County's governmental culture. It must be done day-to-day, as a matter of routine, as it is not something that can be successfully adopted on-the-fly during significant events.

The adoption of NIMS/ICS has swept our nation enabling local, State, tribal and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to integrate with each other to respond to and recover fromemergencies, regardless of the cause, size, location or complexity.

If needed, the Arizona Division of Emergency Management stands ready to assist Gila County in its efforts to achieve NIMS/ICS compliance.

Sincerely,

Louis B. Trammell

Director